

# THE BELLOWS

28th GREAT YEAR

March 15, 2007

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXVIII No. 7

WHAT	NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS
WHERE	DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE 2208 S. 223rd St. (Take Midway exit #149 west off I-5...go to first stop light west of Pacific Hwy. South...Turn right.)
WHEN	Thursday, March 15th..(The Ides of March)..7:00 till 10:00 p.m. (Doors open about 6:00 p.m.)
WHY	A short business meeting..Auction (one item lot per member please)..Door prize..Show & Tell..Members' trade and sell tables (free to members, please cover during business meeting) <u>Program:</u> Our program will be favorite stereo treasures from your collection...cameras..viewers..images. Give us a peek into the world of Stereo (3-D) photography. The older the better.

## CONGRATULATIONS..YOU ARE A PAID-UP MEMBER FOR 2007:

Welcome, and thank you for paying your dues for 2007. You are now a member in good standing of P.S.P.C.S. with all the benefits and privileges which come with membership: Meetings, trade tables, nummies, auctions, door prizes, programs, our special Christmas meeting, The Bellows news letter ten months a year and, of course, our Show Experience Weekend the last of each April. We look forward to seeing you at our monthly meetings and/or our Spring Show.

Hopefully, you will be an active P.S.P.C.S. member and bring your new treasures to share during Show & Tell...and also bring items that will enhance our monthly programs. Not to mention being part of our Show and/or Show Committee, as well as our yearly Christmas gift exchange. It is always fun to be an active member...after all you paid twenty dollars for the privilege

## SHOW COMMITTEE IS KEEPING OR KEEPING ON:

Our April 26th, 27th & 28th Show Experience Weekend is only about six weeks away. If you have not yet ordered your sales tables...or your FREE display table...now is the time to do so. The Show Committee will be assigning table locations on a first come, first served, basis in just a few weeks. Your Show Committee is hard at work. Requests for tables are being processed, over 100 press releases have just been mailed, our April 26th guest speakers, Rick Soloway & Ralph London are ready, seller packets are all but done, signs are being made, guards have been ordered, Show buttons are being made and, with your help, 5,000 flyers are being placed around the Sound and the Northwest. Our 27th Great Show is almost here!

## VANCOUVER B.C. SHOW IS SUNDAY APRIL 15TH:

That's right not only does April bring Spring showers and our Camera Sale, Swap & Show on April 28th it also brings Sigg's Camera Show and Swap Meet at Cameron Rec. Centre at Lougheed Mall in Burnaby B.C. on Sunday, April 15th. Now, this means you should have money to spend because your federal income tax will not be due until Monday the 16th. Tables are \$40.00 each. The one day Show runs from 10 to 4 p.m. (\$5.00) You can get in at 9 a.m. for \$15.00. For all info. contact Siggi Rohde tel & fax (604) 941-0300 or write Siggi at 474 Cariboo Crescent, Coquitlam B.C. V3C 4X7 e-mail: [www.whistlerinns.com/camerashow](http://www.whistlerinns.com/camerashow) This is a wonderful excuse for having a fun weekend getaway in Vancouver B.C. topped off with a great Sunday Camera Show. Just remember to look honest and have your passport ready when you get to the border

The February 15th meeting of the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order at 7:08 p.m. There were 24 members and guests in attendance. Minutes of the January meeting were approved as read. Treasurer, Shirley, reported that we were still in the black and thanked the members who had sent in their dues for 2007.

### UNIFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Darrell reported that the site venue committee had given Bill Kimber and him the semi-final report. The committee had eliminated many potential sites due to any of the following reasons: Location, size, lighting, cost, parking plus other considerations. The final choice will be announced at the May meeting.

The Show Committee reported that everything was going well and now was the time for members to take a good handful of the Show flyers and begin putting them out around the Puget Sound/Northwest area. Over 70 tables have been sold to date.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Gary Sivertsen reminded every one that the Tucson Camera Show would be on Sunday, March 25th. He will be there and invited any interested members to come down and check it out. A member asked if the Club could put out a Club membership list. After discussion the membership felt that there were more reasons not to distribute than too distribute a list.

### SHOW & TELL AND PROGRAM:

Three members brought interesting Show & Tell items. Bill Kimber showed a circa 1900 advertising pocket mirror with a picture of a man holding his hat over the lense of his studio camera. By twisting the mirror the mans' arm, with the hat, would raise revealing the front of the lense. Bill said this was a very rare item and the advertising mirror collectors he had spoken with had never seen another mechanical mirror of any type...let alone one with a camera.

Six members showed very interesting photographic advertising items from their collections. Bill Kimber showed about six items including early colored print ads., catalogs, an early Kodak dime bank and a tiny Kodak pedal car. Thank you to all who took part.

### AUCTION AND DOOR PRIZE:

One item was auctioned for \$15.00.

The door prize was won by Lee Scheeler but he will have to wait until the March meeting to collect his prize because President Darrel forgot to bring it.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 for more selling, chatting and nummie munching.



**THE BELLOWS** Newsletter is published 10 times per year by Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc. Information for The Bellows should be sent to Bill Kimber 1413 Weathervane Dr., Tacoma, WA 98466-5712 (253) 564-4046, billkimber@webtv.net

The P.S.P.C.S. internet address is [www.pspcs.org](http://www.pspcs.org)

Dues are \$20.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road, Cle Elum, WA 98922 (509) 674-1916, [sesparrow9@msn.com](mailto:sesparrow9@msn.com) P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our 4th Saturday in April yearly show.

PRESIDENT: DARREL WOMACK (206) 244-6831 [DARRELCAM@COMCAST.NET](mailto:DARRELCAM@COMCAST.NET)



## THE COLLECTOR

Among the many categories of cameras available to collectors the box camera is often ignored for its lack of glamour and the fact that it is awkward to handle and just doesn't have the pizzazz and status of more expensive cameras. The one exception to this idea seems to be the Box Tengor which is always welcome in any collection both as a product of Zeiss Ikon and as a stylish and effective picture maker.

The first Box Tengor was made by Goerz in 1924, in 1926 ICA, Goerz, Ernemann and Contessa-Nettel merged to form Zeiss Ikon, and the Box Tengor with its Goerz Frontar was retained in the Zeiss Ikon catalogue. The basic camera was made for several film sizes including 120, 129 and 116 roll film and 127 roll film for the Baby Box Tengor that gave 16 frames 3x4 cm per roll.

In 1941-42 a twin lens version appeared briefly and is now quite rare. After WWII the only version left standing was that for 120 film and it continued in production until 1956.

All of these camera used the Goerz Frontar lens except a focusing version of the Baby Box which was fitted with a 6.3 Novar. All were solidly made metal bodies with an interesting mirror on the closed single speed shutter, tripod bushings, cable release socket, and three Waterhouse type apertures, double exposure prevention and on later models after 1934 there were supplementary close-up lenses selectable from the front. In addition the 1948 model had handsome chrome trim and flash synchronization to show off its Goerz Frontar f/9 Achromat lens. This is a two glass achromatic meniscus set in front of the shutter and stops, and it was used on many inexpensive cameras in the early 1920's. Even after the 1926

amalgamation into the new Zeiss empire the Goerz name stayed with the Frontar even though the lens was no longer made at the Goerz factory and the Zeiss works used a different glass from Schott that required tweaking the Frontar formula.

It is rather strange therefore that the ZI logo on the right is based on the exact lens layout for the Goerz Frontar as shown in the Lens Vade Mecum of Wilkinson and Glan-

field. I would be interested to hear from any Zeiss enthusiast if there is a connection between the ZI logo and the Frontar lens.

The Frontar is usually seen with an f/11 aperture on very simple fixed focus cameras, but when a moveable lens standard is employed as in the Ikonette for focus at 6 feet and infinity or supplementary lenses as on the Box Tengor, then the full f/9 aperture is used.



BOX TENGORS L to R 56/2 1948, Baby Box 54/18 1934 and 54/2 from 1928

The shutter on the Baby Box could not be operated unless the wire frame finder was extended, and its Frontar lens was 45mm f/9 making 16 3x4 pictures on 127 film. On the 1948 version of the full size Tengor the focus points are set above the f/9 lens and the aperture setting is below the lens on a very well designed front end. There was also a Model 54 making 4.5x6cm negatives on 120 film in 1932. All these are among the most collectible box cameras and are very useful for vintage camera picture competitions because they are simple and give big negatives on 120 film.



### TWO MARCH SHOWS TO FLY TO:

Want to get away? Go where there is sun and warm winds brush your face as the sun slips below the western hills? Here are two March Camera Shows offered for your consideration.

March 25th: The Western Photographic Historical Society Show in Tucson. Call P.S.P.C.S. member Gary Sivertsen (253) 564-3782 for information.

March 31st: The Houston Camera Show and Sale Contact Leonard M. Hart (713) 868-9606.

### THIS MONTHS' MYSTERY QUESTION:

Answer at end of Newsletter

With thanks to the Western Photographic Historical Society

What 1939-40 camera was called the Model K and had a coupled extinction meter?

## For What It's Worth

by Rick Soloway

### Closing prices on Internet Auctions

It's always hard to establish absolutely reliable estimations of value in the topsy-turvy world of camera collecting. Everyone knows that what something sold for 5 or 10 years ago is not the same as what that same thing sells for today, or will sell for 5 or 10 years from now. Outside of printed price-guides that may or may not be accurate and aside from the opinions of collectors as to what something "should be" worth, we have eBay and the Internet to provide guidance for what something has actually sold for recently. What something sells for does not necessarily reflect the true value of the piece, but reflects the bids and offers of collectors at a given point in time. Sometimes selling prices reflect irrational bids of collectors who simply **MUST** buy a particular piece, or overly exuberant bids of novice collectors and newbies.

Low selling bids can also reflect the luck and good fortune of a collector who happens to get a very good deal on an item that (they know) usually sells for more, or whose value is not fully appreciated by other bidders at that particular moment. This type of situation is more about being in the right place at the right time, or perhaps discovering an item that has been misspelled, incorrectly or erroneously described, or miscategorized. This is the difference between describing an item as an "antique camera" or more precisely as a "Vintage German-made Nagel Pupille camera."

With this preface out of the way, and realizing that the closing prices listed can reflect any of the above situations (over-priced, under-priced, under appreciated, mislabeled or categorized, lucky and unlucky). Here are some recent real-world closing sales values:

Sawyer's Viewmaster Stereo camera and flash \$89.00

Kodak Beau Brownie (green) \$136.27

Nagel Pupille (from the Czech Republic) \$249.00

Leica CL with 40mm lens \$610.00

Argus Model K \$199.00

Samoca 35 III \$9.99

Argus A (brown and gold) \$104.26

French Sem 35mm \$15.99

Wirgin Gewirette with Prontor shutter \$81.00

Kodak Six-16 (brown) \$56.00

Kodak Six-20 (black) \$44.95

Argus A (green) \$51.00

Argus A (green) \$38.00

Olympus XA \$53.99

Graflex No. 0 \$188

Petie Submini \$6.50

Sugaya Rubix \$179

Sugaya Rubix \$202.50

If you have verifiable closing prices on items that you watched, drop me a line at <ricksoloway@hotmail.com> and I'll include that info in a future article.

## Digital Burn-Out?

Siggi phoned to tell me of wave of angst over using older powerful electronic flashes on modern high tech digital cameras. Older mechanical cameras have robust flash circuits with no TTL or other frills. Current digital cameras have very sophisticated circuits made to operate at about 5-25 volts. Many older flash units have a trigger voltage of up to 250 volts! The problem arises when using older lenses in manual mode which causes the camera flash to fire at full power all the time. The answer is to use an auto-thyristor flash in the hot shoe. But check the trigger voltage on the flash unit first. I was using a teeny-weeny Hitacon Auto Mini (one AA cell) until I read about this problem, checked trigger volts, and noted a whopping 210 volts!

Trouble is the camera makers are shy about the maximum voltage their gear will tolerate and their new recommended flash units start around \$300 and up.

There is a lot of confusing stuff about this on the internet if you want to go to;

<[www.botzilla.com/photo/strobeVolts.html](http://www.botzilla.com/photo/strobeVolts.html)>

This sort of digibabble is rather OT in this space and I must apologize to our purists, but the issue of compatibility has been raised. It is also rather dumb to fry an expensive camera with a \$5 flash.

**Answer:** The Argus Model K. A desirable collectable the Model K is assumed to be the legendary Model D (a spring-motor autowind camera announced in 1939 and never marketed). The Model K retained the same body style but did not include the autowind feature but did include a coupled extinction meter for its \$19.50 price. When one can be found, expect to pay \$250-\$400.

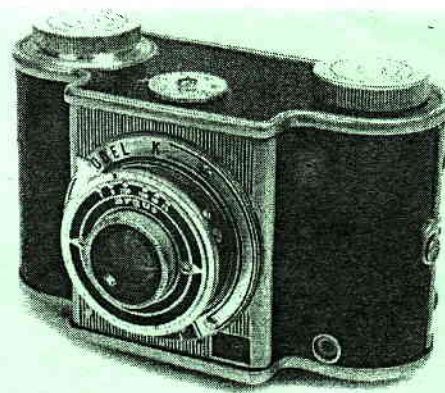


Photo courtesy <[www.rizcam.com](http://www.rizcam.com)>